

## Message Text

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S/S-0 - SGOLDSMITH

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 101280

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU VISIT -- KOREA  
DISCUSSION

1. ROK EMBASSY COUNSELOR PARK WAS BRIEFED IN GENERAL  
TERMS APRIL 19 AT DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE ON KOREA DISCUSSION  
DURING VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU.  
SINCE THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD IN WASHINGTON, WE FELT IT  
MORE APPROPRIATE TO INFORM ROKG THROUGH ITS EMBASSY HERE.

2. CEAUSESCU BROUGHT SUBJECT OF KOREA UP AND INDICATED  
THAT H S RELATIONS WITH KIM IL-SONG WERE GOOD AND HE WOULD  
BE VISITING PYONGYANG NEXT MONTH. HE DESCRIBED KIM IL-SONG  
AS WISHING TO IMPROVE DPRK RELATIONS WITH USG THROUGH  
INITIATION OF DIRECT TALKS. KIM VIEWED PRESIDENT PARK

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AS MAIN OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS IN REDUCING KOREAN TENSIONS,  
AND DESCRIBED ROKG AS FASCIST AND PRO-JAPANESE. NORTH  
KOREA WOULD NOT DEAL WITH PRESIDENT PARK OR HIS GOVERNMENT,  
BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH SOME OTHER NON-  
COMMUNIST "DEMOCRATIC" GOVERNMENT IN THE SOUTH WHICH WAS  
ACCEPTABLE TO THE USG. FORMER PRESIDENT YUN PO-SUN WAS  
EVEN MENTIONED AS AN EXAMPLE OF AN "ACCEPTABLE" LEADER.

3. NOTING THAT CEAUSESCU HAD REPEATED THE HISTORIC NORTH KOREAN POSITION, THE PRESIDENT FIRMLY REMINDED HIM THAT IT WAS NEITHER KIM IL-SONG'S RESPONSIBILITY NOR U.S. RESPONSIBILITY TO DETERMINE THE LEADERSHIP OF SOUTH KOREA. PRESIDENT PARK WAS THE LEADER OF THE ROK AND WE WILL NOT INTERVENE IN SOUTH KOREA'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. UNLESS NORTH KOREA IS WILLING TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CURRENT ROKG THEN THERE WILL BE NO MEETING. THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED THAT THE USG WILL NOT MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH KOREA WITHOUT FULL PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ROK.

4. CEAUSESCU FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT IF THE USG NO LONGER SUPPORTED PARK THEN "INTERNAL" FORCES COULD RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. THE PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE, AND THAT TO UNDERTAKE ANY POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT PRESIDENT PARK WOULD BE FALSE.

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5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSE YET VIA YUGOSLAVIA, THE VERY UNYIELDING NORTH KOREAN POSITION PORTRAYED BY CEAUSESCU DOES NOT SUGGEST ANY CHANGE AT ALL IN NORTH KOREAN UNWILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH THE ROKG. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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